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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

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SUBJECT	Factors Possibly Influencing Bulgarian Political Thought	NO. OF PAGES	2
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Should the Western Democracies consider utilizing resistance elements of Bulgaria on a large scale in the unforeseeable future, some factors which might be of value in any probable or contemplated action relative to use of Bulgarian citizenry are:

- a. Fewer people migrated from Bulgaria after World War II than from any of the other countries of Southeastern Europe with the possible exception of Albania. By and large Soviet intentions for Bulgaria when USSR forces entered the Balkans in 1944, were misinterpreted. When the Soviet troops entered Rumania and northern Bulgaria they turned northward along the Danube. As a result, the average Bulgarian assumed that these troops were bent on liberation rather than eventual occupation. Some few people in key positions appraised the situation correctly and thus escaped to Western Europe. However, in proportion to the population of various Balkan countries, a larger percentage of the intelligentsia now [ ] remains within the country.
- b. Statistics relative to Bulgarian population trends prior to World War II reveal that the average longevity or life span was calculated at around 47 years. Due to the present trend [ ] the mortality rate is higher and that the life span has been lowered. In calculating the average age of political groups or organizations at the time the USSR took over Bulgarian affairs, the above mortality figures would presume that personnel in such organizations would be either statistically dead (theoretically) or too old to be of considered use to the West.

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c. [redacted] an interesting factor deals with the propaganda which is being developed by the Communist Government of Chervenkov. The Bulgarian populace is told that in the event of a Western victory over the Soviet Union, Bulgaria would be occupied by the military forces of Greece and Turkey. The propagandists are playing up the role of the two latter nations in Bulgarian affairs for centuries back. This propaganda reminds the Bulgarian people that over a period of one thousand years either the Greeks or the Turks have occupied or controlled Bulgaria and her affairs for at least seven hundred years [redacted]

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In the eyes of the average Bulgarian the US, when compared to other nations, stands out metaphorically as a "knight in shining armour". [redacted]

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d. [redacted] another psychological approach employed by the supervening officials of the Bulgarian Government is that the UK is bent on the eventual reestablishment of a monarchical form of government in Bulgaria. It is pointed up to Bulgarians that such a monarchy would affiliate itself with the UK to which it would be subservient rather than become an independent kingdom [redacted]

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(2) If this propaganda reaches the average Bulgarian [redacted] its effect would be harmful. [redacted] the average Bulgarian is tired of monarchy, abhors Communism and as a consequence, could be expected to cooperate willingly if he were assured of a republican form of government, freely and duly elected by the people of Bulgaria.

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